

Wilderness Nature Camp

June and July 2006

Where nature rocks, sprouts and slithers

Get ready for another fun summer of exploration with five sessions of new themes and activities! Wilderness Nature Camp is designed to deepen appreciation of Lincoln's rich natural heritage through activities that are adventurous, educational, creative, and fun. Hikes, games, crafts, and magic spots fill the camp day. Each week features guest Nature Center naturalists, water games, creeking and an offsite field trip.

5 Great Weeks:

Session 1: June 12 - 16 Those Amazing Green Machines

Session 2: June 19 - 23 Winged Wonders

Session 3: June 26 - 30 It's a Bug's Life

Session 4: July 10 - 14 Rock On

Session 5: July 17 - 21 Hop, Slither, & Crawl

For ages 6 - 12

Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, extended hours available

Wilderness Park, 1st & Park Blvd.

\$125/week; register by May 1 and save \$10



A Junior Counselor program is available for youth 13 and older. Those interested should call for an application. If selected, two days of training will be provided. \$25/tuition/week.

Call 441-7895 for more information and a camp brochure.

Camper's Name _____ Grade Completed _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____ Work Phone _____

Medications _____ Parent Cell Phone _____

Allergies, if any? _____ To what _____

Family Physician _____ Physician's Phone _____

Special needs or other information the staff should know about the child _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

(Other than parent or guardian)

Select Shirt Size: (circle one) Youth M (10-12) Youth L/Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL

Please check the appropriate session for your camper's registration: (Early registration fee \$115, Regular registration fee \$125)

June 12-16: Those Amazing Green Machines _____ June 19-23: Winged Wonders _____ June 26-30: It's a Bug's Life _____

July 10-14: Rock On _____ July 17-21: Hop, Slither, Crawl _____

Optional: Extended Hours: AM (\$15/Week) _____ PM (\$15/week) _____ BOTH AM and PM (\$25/week) _____

A \$25.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED WITH YOUR REGISTRATION

Amount Enclosed: _____ Remaining fees are required by the Monday before the first day of the camp session.

Check _____ (made payable to Lincoln Parks & Recreation) Credit Card: Visa _____ MC _____ Number _____ Expires _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Pioneers Park Nature Center



Pioneers Park Nature Center includes 668 acres of prairie, wetlands, and woodlands and more than eight miles of hiking trails. Two interpretive buildings have small animal and hands-on exhibits. Outdoor animal exhibits include bison, elk, and deer herds, and non-releasable raptors. Electric carts are available for the use of those who experience difficulty walking.

Our Gift Shop

The Pioneers Park Nature Center Gift Shop carries a variety of nature-themed resource materials, T-shirts, children's books, puppets, and other items. The Gift Shop is located in the Prairie Building.

Rent the Malinovskis Auditorium

Rent the Malinovskis Auditorium for overnight nature programs or as a meeting room. Call 441-7895.

School Programs

Under the guidance of experienced staff, students develop awareness, appreciation, and curiosity about nature. On-site programs are available free of charge to all Lincoln schools but must be booked at least two weeks in advance.

Community Outreach Programs

Interactive nature programs on a variety of topics can be presented to adults and/or children in almost any setting. Fees are \$35 per program, plus mileage, and are limited to the Lincoln area.

JOIN! Friends of Pioneers Park Nature Center

Become a member and help support the development and operation of the Nature Center! Benefits include a quarterly newsletter, special programming, 10% off Nature Center Gift Shop items, and free admission to reciprocating Nature Centers.

WILDERNESS PARK

A place for reflection, contemplation and recreation



Wilderness Park is a 1475 acre linear park running along the western edge of Lincoln. This long, narrow conservancy area offers visitors the chance to catch a glimpse of nature while enjoying the 22 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails. Salt Creek runs the entire length of the park that was established in the early 1970's to store flood waters. The park offers woodlands, prairie, old fields, and wetlands that provide opportunities for the public to catch glimpses of the plants and animals common to these areas. Stands of bur oak and black walnut are abundant. Catching a glimpse of a great blue heron, snapping turtle, wood duck, raccoon, woodpecker, black-capped chickadee or any of the many other species of wildlife is quite common. Come and enjoy this park year-round. Open sunrise to sunset.

Several management projects will be taking place in Wilderness Park this winter. Scrub trees will be removed from stands of bur oak in areas north and south of Pioneer Blvd. The removal of these scrub trees will open up the canopy allowing younger bur oaks to grow. In addition, scrub trees will be removed from the prairie area south of Pioneer Blvd. so it receives maximum sunlight which is necessary for native grasses and wildflowers.

EVERYONE

Free Guided Hikes

Join a naturalist guide for a free walk focusing on seasonal topics. No reservations necessary. Groups of eight or more are asked to call in advance. Hikes are held if 5 or more people are interested.

Saturdays & Sundays 2:00 pm Chet Ager Bldg.
January **February**

7-8 Insects in Winter 4-5 Winter Woods Walk
14-15 Mammals in Winter 11-12 Tracks and Traces
21-22 Plants in Winter 18-19 Antlers & Horns
28-29 Hibernation Investigation 25-26 Nature Center Raptors

March **April**
4-5 Migration Mysteries 1-2 Nature's Surprises
11-12 A Bit of Green 8-9 Prairie Fire
18-19 Wetlands Alive! 15-16 Buds & Blossoms
25-26 Discover Fleming Woods 22-23 Earth Day Every Day
29-30 Fabulous Fungi

May

6-7 Nests & Songs

Full Moon Ramble

We'll walk in the moonlight, listen for nocturnal animals, tell stories, sing songs, drink lunar juice (hot cocoa) and eat moon pies.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 1/11
1/14 Sat 6:30-8:00 pm
\$6/person Prairie Bldg.

Bird Feeder Watch

Watch for visitors to our bird garden feeders, sip hot cocoa, discuss bird behavior, identification, and birdfeeding. No reservations needed for this drop-in program.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 1/11
1/21, 2/18 Sat 1:00-4:00 pm
\$ FREE Chet Ager Bldg.

Orion & Friends

Join us for a brisk walk to view winter stars and share stories from various cultures. Evening ends with hot cocoa.

Ages: 6 & Older **Deadline:** 2/1
2/3 Fri 7:30-8:30 pm
\$6/person Prairie Bldg.

Geology Day

Learn about fossils, minerals, rocks, and gemstones through displays and demonstrations by members of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. They also help identify your own specimens during this free drop-in program.

Ages: All
2/12 Sun 1:00-4:00 pm
\$ FREE Prairie Bldg.

Primitive Pine Needle Baskets

Learn how to make coil baskets. Each person will begin a pine needle basket to finish at home.

Ages: 14 & Older **Deadline:** 2/15
2/18 Sat 9:00 am-Noon
\$8/person Prairie Bldg.

Reptile Care 101

Are you thinking of getting a snake or turtle as a pet? This class will introduce you to the basics of reptile care.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 3/2
3/5 Sun 1:30-3:00 pm
\$6/person Prairie Bldg.

Tracking the Wild

Learn walking techniques and animal stalking skills as done by indigenous culture for centuries. IMPORTANT! Please dress in clothes that you can get dirty.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 3/15
3/18 Sat 2:00-4:00 pm
\$6/person Chet Ager Bldg.

Primitive Mat Making

Indigenous people have been making cattail mats for thousands of years. As a group project we will make two mats that members of the class will be able to take home.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 4/5
4/8 Sat 2:00-4:00 pm
\$6/person Prairie Bldg.

Keep Wilderness Beautiful

You can make a difference! Pitch in and help out with these service projects for our community! Sign up for one of three different tasks:

Children, troops, or dens under 13 years old:
pick up litter along park trails

Youth, troops, or dens 13 and over:
improve habitat by removing cedar trees

Adults: pick up litter along park road
Free pizza and pop will be provided for those who pre-register before April 12.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 4/12
4/15 Sat 8:30am-Noon
\$ FREE Meet at 1st & Park Blvd
at Wilderness Park

**More classes for everyone continued
onto next page >**

A Visitors Checklist for Pioneers Park:

- ___ Visit Prairie Bldg.
and Chet Ager Bldg.
- ___ Watch bison, elk, &
other animals
- ___ Meet snakes &
non-releasable raptors
- ___ Browse gift shop
- ___ Walk the trails
- ___ Explore the wetlands
- ___ See great statues
- ___ Have picnic at park
- ___ Visit the duck pond
- ___ Take a class
- ___ Come again & again



Contact Us:

Pioneers Park Nature Center

Location: West End Of Pioneers Park

Phone: 402-441-7895 **Email:** nfurman@lincoln.ne.gov

Hours: Monday - Saturday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday Noon - 5:00 pm

Mailing Address: 2740 A Street, Lincoln NE 68502

Website: lincoln.ne.gov **Keyword:** Nature

Happy Birthday!

Add Some Nature to Your Birthday!

Treat your child to a special birthday at the Nature Center. An hour nature program including a hike and indoor animal time, is followed by 45 minutes in the building for your birthday activities. We provide space and a birthday favor for each child, and you provide refreshments.

\$50 for 10 children,
\$5 ea. additional child
15 children max.

Call 441-7895 for
reservations at
least two weeks in
advance.

EVERYONE

Primitive Basket Making

Learn how to gather and prepare supplies for several types of baskets. Together the class will begin to create both a melon and sapling basket. Members of the class will take the sample projects home with supplies to finish them.

Ages: 14 & Older **Deadline:** 4/26
4/29 Sat 1:30-4:00 pm
\$8/person Prairie Bldg.

Bird Banding Demonstrations

Take this opportunity to see birds up close! Join a licensed bird bander to watch the banding process and to learn about this nation-wide research project. In case of rain or excessive heat, banding will be cancelled. No registration necessary.

Ages: All
4/29, 5/6, 5/13 Sat 9:00 am-Noon
\$ FREE Chet Ager Bldg.

Mother's Day Breakfast & Birdwalk

Treat your mother to a unique Mother's Day early morning birdwalk followed by a breakfast of rolls, fruit, and a beverage. Binoculars provided for those who do not have their own.

Ages: All **Deadline:** 5/10
5/14 Sun 8:00-10:00 am
\$8/person Prairie Bldg.

DID YOU KNOW?
Pioneers Park is listed
on the National Registry
of Historical Places!

KIDS

Critter Tales

Explore the wonderful world of nature through stories and related activities. Groups of 8 or more children are asked to pre-register.

1/2	Animal Tracks	3/6	Beaver
1/16	Birds of Prey	3/20	Pond Critters
2/6	Snow Days	4/3	Raccoons
2/20	Bats	4/17	Spring in Bud

Ages: Pre-schoolers

1st & 3rd Mondays

\$0.50/child

10:00-10:30 am

Prairie Bldg.

WINTER SURVIVAL CAMP JANUARY 16-17

**A 2-day nature camp
for grades 1 - 5.**

**Investigate the
ways animals
and humans
survive the
cold. Build
a debris
hut and
study
animal
tracks.**



9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Extended hours available

\$50/child, \$5 early registration
discount before January 1

**Call 441-7895
For Info. & Application**

**TWO BIG DAYS
OF FUN!**

THANK YOU

**We send out
our thanks
to these
businesses
for their
support of
Nature Center
animals for the
2005-06 Year**

LINCOLN BENEFIT LIFE
AN ALLSTATE COMPANY

**Bison Herd &
Bird Garden**



E&A CONSULTING GROUP, INC
ENGINEERS • PLANNERS • FIELD SERVICES

Blanding's Turtle



Community Blood Bank

Founded by the Lancaster County Medical Society

**Gray Phase
Screech Owl**

ADULTS

Sandhill Crane Trip

Enjoy the magnificent spring spectacle of the sandhill crane migration. The trip will include videos on the bus, stops at ponds and fields to view cranes and waterfowl, and sunset at the Fort Kearney Bridge watching the cranes coming to the river for the night. Participants should bring their own picnic supper. Call the Nature Center for more information.

Deadline: 2/17

3/20 Mon 12:30-9:30 pm
\$40/person Meet at Auld Rec. Center



Basic Bird Identification

Learn to identify area birds during the exciting spring migration period. Evening sessions cover field guides, binoculars and scopes, tips on identifying birds, habitat and migration, publications, and organizations. Saturday morning fieldtrips visit local birding hotspots (participants will carpool).

Co-sponsored by Wachiska Audubon Society.

Deadline: 4/1

Tue 4/4, 4/11, 4/18 & 4/25 7-9 pm Prairie Bldg.
Sat 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 & 4/29 8-10 am (fieldtrips)
\$40/person/8 sessions

SCOUTS

Free Hikes

One hour naturalist-led hikes offered for scouts Saturday mornings at 10 am. Call to register at least two weeks in advance. First-come, first-served.

Badgework

Nature Center programming will help your group complete a badge in one morning or afternoon. Program will rotate.

Eco-Explorer Try-It for Brownie Scouts

Habitat is where your home is. Explore Nature Center habitats and create one for little critters. Nature Center staff will help you complete activities #1, 3, 4, and 5.

Deadline: 3/22

3/25 Sat 9:30-11:30 am
\$6/scout; leaders free Chet Ager Bldg.

Your Outdoor Surroundings Badge

Explore the fun you can have in the outdoors. Nature Center staff will help you complete activities #4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Ages: Jr. Girl Scouts **Deadline: 4/26**

4/29 Sat 9:30-Noon
\$6/scout; leaders free Prairie Bldg.

Naturalist Activity Badge

Learn to identify the poisonous plants and animals of our area, investigate bird flyways and more! Nature Center staff will help you complete activities # 3, 5, 6, and 8.

Ages: Webelos **Deadline: 5/3**

5/6 Sat 1:00-3:30 pm
\$6/scout; leaders free Prairie Bldg.

Nature Center Preschool

Where Kids Explore

September 2006 - May 2007

Enrollment begins March 1
Tuesday/Thursday Sessions or
Wednesday/Friday Sessions

Morning Sessions: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Afternoon Sessions: 12:30-2:30 pm

Call 441-7895 for a brochure.

See Page 3 for more information.



A Nature
NOTE!

CSI:
Nature
Center
CAMP

Investigate a
different nature
crime scene
every day!
See Ad on Page 30

Make it a
special day
for Mom!

Treat your mother
to A Mother's Day
Breakfast & Birdwalk
at Pioneers Park
Call 441-7895

More info on Page 32

Pioneers Park Nature Center Program Registration Form (Winter 2006)

Registration: Many Nature Center programs require **advance reservations** - All reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Telephone registrations by credit card only (charge must be at least \$10). Participants will receive confirmation of registration.

Deadline: Unless noted otherwise, registration deadline is three days prior to the start of the program.

Refunds: Refund requests must be made 72 hours prior to the program date and are subject to a \$5.00 service charge.

Cancellations: PPNC reserves the right to cancel classes due to conditions beyond its control. Participants will be notified prior to the program; they may choose to obtain a full refund or sign up for another available program.

Name(s) _____

Day Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail Address (optional method for confirmation):

Payment: ☐ CHECK
(made payable to Lincoln Parks & Recreation)

☐ CREDIT CARD
(total must be \$10 or more)

_____ card number

_____ expiration date

_____ signature

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please complete form and mail with payment to:

Pioneers Park Nature Center
2740 'A' Street
Lincoln, NE 68502



CSI: Nature Center Camp

March 20 - 24
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
(extended hours available)

Campers will investigate a different nature crime scene each day, using creepy crawly clues, tracks, signs, skulls and bones to discover what happened, how and why. The young detectives will test their skills in prairies, woods & wetlands, with a field trip on Wednesday. Join in the fun!

For Ages 6 - 12!

\$125/Child
Register by March 1 and save \$10

For more information and application call 441-7895

Classes

Date	Class	Fee	# Registering
Jan 14	Full Moon Ramble	\$6/person	_____
Jan 16,17	Winter Survival Camp	\$50/child	_____
	Extended hours		
	\$3 am or pm/day, \$5 both/day		_____
Feb 3	Orion and Friends	\$6/person	_____
Feb 18	Pine Needle Baskets	\$8/person	_____
Mar 5	Reptile Care 101	\$6/person	_____
Mar 18	Tracking the Wild	\$6/person	_____
Mar 20	Sandhill Crane Trip	\$40/person	_____
Mar 25	Eco-Explorer Try-It	\$6/scout	_____
Apr 4+	Basic Bird ID	\$40/person	_____
Apr 5+	Beginning Astronomy	\$20/person	_____
Apr 8	Mat Making	\$6/person	_____
Apr 29	Your Outdoor Surroundings	\$6/scout	_____
Apr 29	Basket Making	\$8/person	_____
May 6	Naturalist for Webelos	\$6/scout	_____
May 14	Mother's Day	\$8/person	_____

_____ I would like to be on the mailing list to receive the Nature Center Newsletter!

For More Information CALL 441-7895



Veteran's Memorial Garden *at Antelope Park*

You Must Experience this Unique Lincoln Landmark!

A visit to this site in Lincoln's historic Antelope Park will take you on a walking tour of 17 Military Memorial Monuments.

The Garden is a place of solemn beauty, allowing peaceful reflection for those who want to honor America's veterans. It serves as a permanent reminder of the sacrifices they have made to preserve our Freedom. The Veteran's Memorial Garden is located within Antelope Park at Veterans & Memorial Drives and is maintained by the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Veteran's Memorial Garden Advisory Council. The Veteran's Memorial Garden Advisory Council is a group of volunteer mayoral appointed members, both veterans and non-veterans. Together these groups are committed to create a place and promote events to honor all veterans, soldiers and their families, past and present.

Come and commemorate these events with us:

Dec 7	11:55 am	Pearl Harbor Remembrance
May 28/29	TBA	Candlelight Service Sunday & Memorial Day Observance
June 10	10:00 am	Annual Garden Program & Brick Dedication

For More information about Veteran's Memorial Garden
Call (402) 441-7847 or Visit: lincoln.ne.gov Keyword: Veteran

Hyde Memorial Observatory at Holmes Park

Volunteer astronomers offer programs & assist visitors as they observe the sky through three powerful telescopes.

Open to the public each Saturday evening,
7-10 pm, January & February;
Sunset - 11:00 pm March, April, & May
FREE OF CHARGE

Other viewing times for groups, schools, or organizations of 20 or more may be arranged with two weeks notice.

Call 441-7895 M-F to make reservations.

Beginning Astronomy

Have you ever wanted to learn how to use a telescope or more about celestial objects in the night sky? In this class members of the Prairie Astronomy Club will cover topics in basic astronomy including stars, planets, constellations, galaxies, telescopes, navigating the night sky, and more. Observing sessions will use telescopes provided by the Prairie Astronomy Club. Students who have their own telescopes or binoculars are encouraged to bring them to the observing sessions for individual assistance. Class will be held from 7:00-8:30 pm, followed by the observing session. If more than one observing session is clouded out, it will be rescheduled. For questions call 441-8708.

Dates: Wednesdays, April 5, 12, 19, and 26

Time: 7:00-9:30 pm

Location: Hyde Observatory

Fee: \$20/person/4 sessions

Make checks payable to the Prairie Astronomy Club, but send them to
Pioneers Park Nature Center, 2740 A Street, Lincoln NE 68502

- The Observatory has three sophisticated telescopes for public viewing. They each provide dramatic views of celestial objects. The one most recently acquired is computer-controlled and is connected to the large screen projection system. In addition, the Observatory has recently acquired a solar telescope.

- Knowledgeable operators are available to explain special astronomical occurrences, how the equipment operates, and answer questions about the sky.

- Two different programs about astronomy, constellations, or space alternate throughout the evening whether the sky is cloudy or clear.

- Utilizing Internet access and a large screen projection system, operators are able to present the audience with the latest up-to-date images and information about astronomy and space.

- Hyde Observatory produces half of its electrical needs from a photovoltaic system (solar cells) funded by a grant from Lincoln Electric System. The public can learn about creating electricity from sunlight and witness a green energy system in operation.

- The Observatory is a member of the International Dark Sky Association, a not-for-profit organization committed to finding reasonable solutions to the growing problem of light pollution.

- For more information visit the Hyde web site at hydeobservatory.info

Call 441-7094 for current sky information.

Photo Credit: Disorder in Stephan's Quintet Jane C Charlton (Penn State)